

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

Mann, Klaus

o.O., 1944-08-17

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17-8.44

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the space below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. *17-8.44*

To
 Mr. Ivan GOLL,
 136 Columbia Heights,
 BROOKLYN,
 N.Y.,
 U.S.A.

From
 Sgt. Klaus Hamm, 2269727e
 P.W.D., HQ 8th Army,
 APO 604, c/o Postmaster,
 New York, NY

Italy, 17 August

Dear Ivan Goll,

It's just that I feel like saying Hello to you -- just today, the day of the liberation of Chartres, two days after the landing in the South of France, and how many days before the liberation of Paris! How many days before the end of the War? It's a n't last long anymore...

How have you been, cher ami? Busy and successful? How is your magazine? How is the French crew of O.W.I.? Is Green still active there? Remember me to him -- and also to Albert Guérard, if he is around. And Robert de Saint-Jean, Laszreff, and all the others! Are they already packing their trunks to return to Paris? What about yourself? Do you intend to stay in Brooklyn?

As for me, I don't have the faintest idea what may be in store for me -- after the War, I mean. Maybe the gentlemen in charge will see it fit to send me to Allied-occupied Germany and Austria, and make me work with O.W.I. or some similar organization; maybe they won't. My own feelings as regards this prospect are rather complex and contradictory. But, fortunately, I won't have to make the decision; it will be made for me. One becomes curiously fatalistic, after some time in the Army... Just now, my activities are not too exciting. It's about 8 months that I have been overseas, by now -- mostly in Italy, always with the Psychological Warfare Branch --, and I haven't done half as much as I could, and would have liked to. Yet it might have been worse, and at least I have had the privilege of seeing quite a bit of world history -- somewhat too close, perhaps...

Give my best to Claire. Let us hear from you.

Bien à vous, yours, *KLAUS*

HEART OF EUROPE turned out to be a rather impressive volume -- don't you think so? Did I ever tell you how much I liked your French Introduction? If not, I am telling you so herewith!